

Appendix 102 -- Taiwan's Position Paper on "Special State-to-State Relationship" (1999)

Source: Shirley Kan "China/Taiwan: Evolution of the 'One China' Policy -- Key Statements from Washington, Beijing and Taipei", Updated June 03, 2011. *Congressional Research Service Report for Congress* (Code: RL 30341), p.61.

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President Lee's remarks concerning the nature of the cross-strait relationship were based on the necessity of protecting national interests and dignity. From the political, historical, and legal perspectives, he merely clarified an existing fact. He by no means twisted or exaggerated the truth, nor did he exclude the goal of unifying both sides of the Strait as a new, democratic China....

Taiwan and the Chinese mainland have always differed in their definition of "one China. " Thus, in 1992, ... the two sides eventually reached an agreement on "one China, with each side being entitled to its respective interpretation. " ...

However, Beijing has unilaterally abandoned this agreement in recent years. ... In the framework of the 1992 agreement, whereby each side is entitled to its respective interpretation, we have always maintained that the "one China" concept refers to the future rather than the present. The two sides are not yet unified, but are equals, ruled separately. We both exist concurrently. Therefore, the two sides can be defined as sharing a "special state-to-state relationship, "prior to unification....